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EXAMINER

BUI, KIEU OANH T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2611

DATE MAILED: 01/14/2004

7

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/037,321

Applicant(s)

TRANCHINA ET AL.

Examiner

KIEU-OANH T BUI

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 October 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 and 23-48 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 and 23-48 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 6.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Remarks

1. Claims 21-22 were canceled in the amendment dated 10/2/03 (paper no. 5). Pending claims are now claims 1-20, 23-45 and new claims 46-48.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-48 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection (a modified version of the previous Action) and the Examiner's argument as below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

*A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -
(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.*

4. Claims 1-2, 4-8, ~~13~~16, 18-21, and 23-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Beckert et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,794,164/ or "Becker" hereinafter).

Regarding claim 1, Beckert display a display device for a vehicle (Fig. 1, and col. 3/lines 20-32), comprising: at least one video signal source for outputting at least one video signal corresponding to at least one video program, i.e., a database or mass storage unit 506 serves as a source for providing at least one video program to viewers (Fig. 8/item 506, and col. 12/lines 52-59); two or more displays for receiving the at least one video signal and for simultaneously displaying the at least one video program, i.e., two or more displays are provided to viewers at

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display 54 for the driver and display 24 for each viewer in the back seat (as illustrated in Fig. 1, and col. 11/lines 40-65 as display 54 can display video; and Fig. 8, col. 13/lines 2-22 as each user can have his/her own display screen as the processing unit 512 including a visual screen); an assembly housing for enclosing at least a portion of said at least one video signal source and for supporting at least one of said two or more displays; and a bus for coupling said at least one of said two or more displays to said at least one media source when said at least one of said two or more displays is supported by said assembly housing, and wherein each of said two or more displays has a capability of operating while being remote from said assembly housing, i.e., a computer entertainment system 22 is enclosed in a housing 36 including other supporting components for operating the one or more displays, for instance, an operating system with open platform that can execute multiple applications and programs including multitasking functions for simultaneously executing multiple applications (Fig. 1, col. 3/line 65 to col. 4/line 46) using an internal bus 68 for supporting the interfacing among devices (Fig. 3, col. 5/line 60 to col. 6/line 2) as well as providing video output data to displays 54 and 24 (col. 5/lines 17-23).

Beckert further discloses “comprising a connector for electrically coupling said at least one of said two or more displays to said bus when said at least one of said two or more displays is supported by said assembly housing” (Fig. 8 with a connector 510 for each user for having display and programs to each of them, col. 12/line 64 to col. 13/line 22, coupled to the system with a shared bus as shown (Fig. 3/item 68) and “wherein said connector is positioned on a member for physically coupling said at least one of said two or more displays to said assembly housing”, i.e., connector ports 510 is positioned on a bus structure 508 for physically coupling the at least one of two or more displays 512 to the assembly housing computing unit 504 or ‘Server’ (Fig. 8, and col. 12/line 64 to col. 13/line 12).

As for claim 2, in view of claim 1, Beckert further discloses “wherein the connector allows for selectively coupling and decoupling of said at least one of said two or more displays to and from said bus and said assembly housing”, i.e., as shown in Fig. 8, the user can either connect or disconnect to the connector ports 510 selectively from at least one of two or more displays for enjoying different games or programs (col. 13/lines 5-22).

As for claims 4 and 5, in view of claim 1, Beckert discloses “wherein said at least one media source is adapted to output at least two video signals corresponding to at least two video programs, and said two or more displays are adapted to receive the at least two video signals and to display the at least two video programs” and “wherein at least two of said two or more displays respectively and simultaneously display at least two different ones of the at least two video programs”, i.e., at least two different video programs are provided simultaneously to users (col. 3/lines 22-32 & col. 13/lines 13-22).

As for claim 6, in view of claim 4, Beckert discloses “wherein each of said two or more displays respectively and simultaneously display a same one of the at least two video programs”, i.e., a video program can be simultaneously displayed to two or more displays (col. 13/lines 5-12 and as an illustration in Fig. 8 as one video disk can provide the display simultaneously to all viewers).

As for claim 7, in further view of claim 1, Beckert inherently suggests “wherein said at least one media source comprises at least one of a television tuner, a video cassette player (VCP), a digital video disk (DVD) player, and a video game player” (col. 12/lines 13-40 for a variety of audio and video applications as well as video games).

As for claim 8, in view of claim 1, Beckert discloses “wherein said at least one media source comprises a receiver for receiving the at least one video signal from at least one external input device”, i.e., a port for receiving at least one video signal from an external input device (col. 6/lines 32-38) and other additional peripherals (col. 9/lines 55-62).

As for claim 13, in view of claim 1, Beckert inherently discloses “wherein at least one of said two or more displays employs at least one of a liquid crystal display (LCD) technology, light emitting diodes (LEDs), and a gas plasma”, i.e., a LCD display is addressed (col. 4/lines 56-58).

As for claim 14, in view of claim 1, Beckert further discloses “wherein at least one of said two or more displays comprises a mounting device for mounting at a rear portion of a seat, independent of a location of the assembly housing”, i.e., display screen 24 is mounting at a rear portion of a seat independent with the main assembly housing 46 (as shown in Fig. 1).

As for claim 15, in view of claim 1, Beckert discloses “wherein each of said two or more displays comprises at least one speaker for reproducing audio signals corresponding to the at least one video program” (Fig. 1/items 30 for speakers).

As for claim 16, in view of claim 1, Beckert discloses “wherein each of said two or more displays comprises at least one input jack for receiving audio or video signals” (col. 6/lines 32-38 & col. 9/lines 55-62).

As for claim 18, in view of claim 1, Beckert discloses “wherein each of said two or more displays comprises a power supply jack for receiving power from an external power supply”, i.e., either an external power supply from a car battery is shown (Fig. 1/item 32) or from a cellular power pack with a power port for external power source (col. 7/lines 9-14).

As for claim 19, in view of claim 1, Berkert further discloses “wherein the vehicle includes at least one seat, and said assembly housing mounts at a rear portion of the at least one seat” (Fig. 1/item 24 for a rear seat passenger).

As for claim 20, in view of claim 1, Beckert further discloses “further comprising at least one speaker, disposed within the assembly housing, for reproducing audio signals corresponding to the at least one video program” (Fig. 3/item 90 or Fig. 5/item 90 for speaker providing audio signals & col. 11/lines 40-49 for both video and audio is provided for a program).

(Claims 21-22 were canceled).

As for claims 23 and 24, in view of claim 1, Beckert further discloses “comprising signal processing facilities adapted to perform at least one of signal processing and signal conversion, with respect to the at least one video signal” and “wherein said signal processing facilities are adapted to perform at least one of digital signal processing, encoding, decoding, encrypting, decrypting, compressing, decompressing, analog-to-digital conversion (ADC) , digital-to-analog conversion (DAC), and error correction” (Figs. 5 and 7, a digital signal processor DSP 80 handles signal processing and signal conversion as well as A/D and D/A conversion (Fig. 7/item 432), encoding and decoding (col. 7/line 60 to col. 8/line 6), security, and error correction or diagnostics (col. 12/lines 14-40).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 3, 9-12, and 47-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beckert et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,794,164) in view of Chan et al. (US Patent 6,339,696 B1/ or “Chan”).

As for claim 3, in view of claim 2, Beckert discloses “wherein said at least one of said two or more displays comprises a screen” (as illustrated in Fig. 1), but Beckert does not mention “said connector flexibly couples said at least one of said two or more displays to said bus such that said at least one of said two or more displays folds against said assembly housing to protect

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the screen”; however, it is known in the art that a portable displaying device can be folded against its assembly housing for protecting the screen. In fact, Chan teaches that a portable video display device (Figs. 6 & 8) can have a folding LCD screen (Fig. 8/item 206, and col. 9/lines 15-24). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Beckert’s display device with a folding LCD screen as taught by Chan in order to flip the screen against its housing for protecting the screen of being hit or getting scratched unintentionally by someone as preferred.

As for claims 9 and 11, in view of claim 1, Beckert discloses “wherein said at least one media source outputs at least one audio signal corresponding to the at least one video program”, i.e., both video and audio signals/programs to users (col. 11/lines 40-49), yet Beckert does not further addresses that “said display device further comprises at least one wireless transmitter operatively coupled to said at least one media source for wirelessly transmitting the at least one audio signal to at least one wireless headphone set, and each of said two or more displays comprise a wireless receiver for wirelessly receiving the at least one audio signal”; however, Chan further teaches that the portable video device (as illustrated in Figs. 6 & 8) further including a wireless transmitter 204 for transmitting wirelessly at least one audio signal (col. 9/lines 14-38) to at least one wireless headphone set (as shown in Fig. 2, and col. 5/lines 55-67). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Beckert’s system with Chan’s teaching technique of further including a wireless transmitter at the video device for wirelessly transmitting audio signals to a wireless headphone set in order to provide the user his own personal enjoy in listening music as well as for his own selection in tuning channels as taught by Chan (col. 3/lines 17-34).

As for claims 10 and 12, in view of claim 9, Beckert and Chan further teaches “wherein the at least one audio signal is wirelessly transmitted as a radio frequency signal or an infrared

signal”, i.e., infrared is addressed (Beckert, col. 4/line 67 to col. 5/line 5) and radio frequency signal is used with a communication antenna (Chan, Fig. 1, and col. 23-64).

As for claims 47-48, these claims are combined limitations of claims 1 and 11 for a wireless transmitter are rejected for the same reasons as discussed earlier in view of Beckert and Chan.

7. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beckert et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,794,164).

As for claim 17, in view of claim 4, Beckert does not disclose “wherein each of said two or more displays comprises a multiplexer for selecting one of the at least two video programs”; however, Beckert suggests that the computing unit 504 is capable of selecting appropriate video programs for users (col. 13/lines 13-22). Therefore, it would have been obvious to realize that one of ordinary skill in the art can modify Beckert’s system with a multiplexer in order to further provide a function for selecting one of the at least two video programs based on the suggesting step of Beckert’s as disclosed.

8. Claims 25-32, 33-37, 39, 41-43 and 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beckert et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,794,164) in view of Lee (US Patent 6,283,299 B1).

Regarding claim 25, Beckert discloses “a display device for a vehicle having a seat, comprising: at least one media source for outputting at least one video signal corresponding to at least one video program; two or more displays for respectively receiving the at least one video signal and for respectively and simultaneously displaying the at least one video program; an assembly housing for enclosing at least a portion of said at least one media source and for supporting at least one of said two or more displays” (see claim 1 above). Beckert further

discloses “a connecting member for electrically coupling and physically coupling said at least one of said two or more displays to said bus and to said assembly housing, respectively” (see Fig. 8, and claim 1 above).

Beckert does not further addresses the steps of including “a bag for receiving said assembly housing and suspending said assembly housing at a rear of the seat when said assembly housing is in any one of an operational mode and a nonoperational mode; and a bus for coupling said at least one of said two or more displays to said at least one media source when said at least one of said two or more displays is supported by said assembly housing, and wherein each of said two or more displays has a capability of operating while being remote from said assembly housing and irrespective of whether said assembly housing is received and suspended by said bag”; however, Lee already teaches a technique of introducing a portable bag for carrying TV and video media player with an LCD screen for use within a vehicle (see Figs. 1, 3, 5 & 6, and col. 2/line 55 to col. 3/line 39). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Beckert’s in-vehicle video and audio system with Lee’s teaching technique of having a carrying bag for holding the video/audio device and for suspending it at a rear of the seat (as taught by Lee) with a bus for coupling to at least one of the two or more displays for remotely operating the device as disclosed by Beckert, i.e., an operating system with open platform that can execute multiple applications and programs including multitasking functions for simultaneously executing multiple applications (Fig. 1, col. 3/line 65 to col. 4/line 46) using an internal bus 68 for supporting the interfacing among devices (Fig. 3, col. 5/line 60 to col. 6/line 2) as well as providing video output data to displays 54 and 24 (Beckert, Fig. 1, and col. 5/lines 17-23).

As for claims 26, in view of claim 25, Lee further teaches “wherein said bag comprises a mounting mechanism for suspending said assembly housing to the rear of the seat”, i.e., two straps 26 can be used for suspending the bag to the rear of the seat (Lee, Fig. 6 & 7).

As for claims 27 and 28, in view of claim 25, Lee further teaches “wherein said bag comprises at least a main compartment for at least partially encasing at least said assembly housing” and “wherein the main compartment partially encases said assembly housing irrespective of whether at least one of said two or more displays is supported by said assembly housing” (Fig. 3 shows a main compartment for encasing at least its assembly housing with a display is outside of the main compartment).

As for claim 29, in view of claim 25, Lee further teaches “wherein said bag comprises at least one compartment for encasing at least one of said two or more displays, when said at least one of said two or more displays is remote from said assembly housing”, i.e., the LCD TV can be placed in the bag (Fig. 7, and col. 3/lines 5-9).

As for claim 30, in view of claim 25, Lee further teaches “wherein said bag comprises at least one compartment for encasing accessories corresponding to the display device” (col. 3/lines 9-15).

As for claim 31, in view of claim 25, Lee teaches “wherein said bag comprises a flap, disposed at a top face of the bag, for providing unrestricted viewing access to a given one of said two or more displays when said assembly housing is received and suspended by said bag and said given one of said two or more displays is supported by said assembly housing” (as shown in Figs. 2 & 7 for flaps on top for providing access to the pocket storing the LCD TV display and the assembly housing and the housing is supporting the LCD display as in Figs. 1 & 2).

As for claim 32, in view of claim 31, Lee further teaches “wherein the flap further provides access for loading at least a video medium into said at least one media source” (as shown in Fig. 3 as one can load a video medium as a video tape into the assembly housing).

As for claims 33-37, 39, and 41-43, these claims are rejected for the reasons given in the scope of claims 25-32 as disclosed in details above.

As for claim 46, this limitation is met as Beckert discloses a connecting member (port) allows for selective coupling and decoupling of at least one of the two or more displays to and from the bus and the assembly housing (see claims 1-2 above).

9. Claims 38, 40, and 44-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beckert et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,794,164) in view of Lee (US Patent 6,283,299 B1) and Chan et al. (US Patent 6,339,696 B1/ or "Chan").

As for claims 38, and 44, in further view of claim 33, Beckert and Lee do not further address "comprising a wireless transmitter for wirelessly transmitting the video signal, and wherein said display comprises a wireless receiver for wirelessly receiving the video signal" and "further comprising a wireless transmitter for wirelessly transmitting the at least two video signals, and wherein each of said at least two displays comprises a wireless receiver for wirelessly receiving the at least two video signals"; however, Chan further teaches that the portable video device (as illustrated in Figs. 6 & 8) further including a wireless transmitter 204 for transmitting wirelessly at least one audio signal (col. 9/lines 14-38) to at least one wireless headphone set (as shown in Fig. 2, and col. 5/lines 55-67). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Beckert and Lee's system with Chan's teaching technique of further including a wireless transmitter at the video device for wirelessly transmitting audio signals to a wireless headphone set in order to provide the user his own personal enjoy in listening music as well as for his own selection in tuning channels as taught by Chan (col. 3/lines 17-34).

As for claims 40 and 45, in further view of claims 39 and 42 respectively, Beckert and Lee do not mention "wherein said display comprises a multiplexer for selecting one of the at least two video programs for display" and "wherein each of said at least two displays comprises a multiplexer for selecting one of the at least two video programs for display"; however, Beckert

suggests that the computing unit 504 is capable of selecting appropriate video programs for users (col. 13/lines 13-22). Therefore, it would have been obvious to realize that one of ordinary skill in the art can modify Beckert's system with a multiplexer in order to further provide a function for selecting one of the at least two video programs based on the suggesting step of Beckert's as disclosed.

Response to Arguments

10. Applicant's arguments filed on 10/02/03 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants basically argues that Beckert does not disclose or suggest "a connector for electrically coupling ..." (as amended in claim 1) by pointing out an example of Figure 5. Beckert does show a bus structure 508 (as illustrated in Fig. 8) for "electrically and physically coupling" to one or more displays 512 (labeled Clients) from the assembly housing 504 or main server for providing video or gaming services to clients for users at the front seats (as illustrated in Fig. 1) and the two back seats (as shown in Fig. 1/item 24 & Fig. 8). The reference of Beckert reads on the recently amended claim language. Therefore, the Examiner disagrees with the Applicants' arguments and stands with the disclosure, teaching and suggestion of Beckert, Chan, and Lee as disclosed in the previous Office Action and this Final Office Action.

Conclusion

11. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

12. **Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306, (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

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13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Krista Kieu-Oanh Bui whose telephone number is (703) 305-0095. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM, with alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Faile, can be reached on (703) 305-4380.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.



ANDREW FAILE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

Krista Bui
Art Unit 2611
December 17, 2003